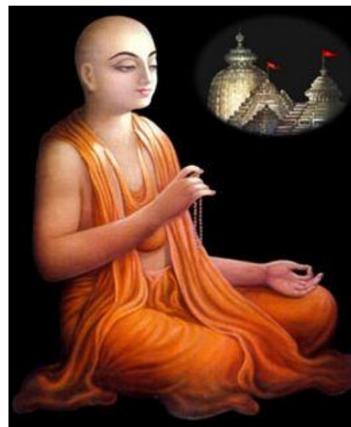


EIGHT SLOKAS (VERSES) COMPOSED
BY THE LOTUS HAND OF SRI
CAITANYA MAHAPRABHU

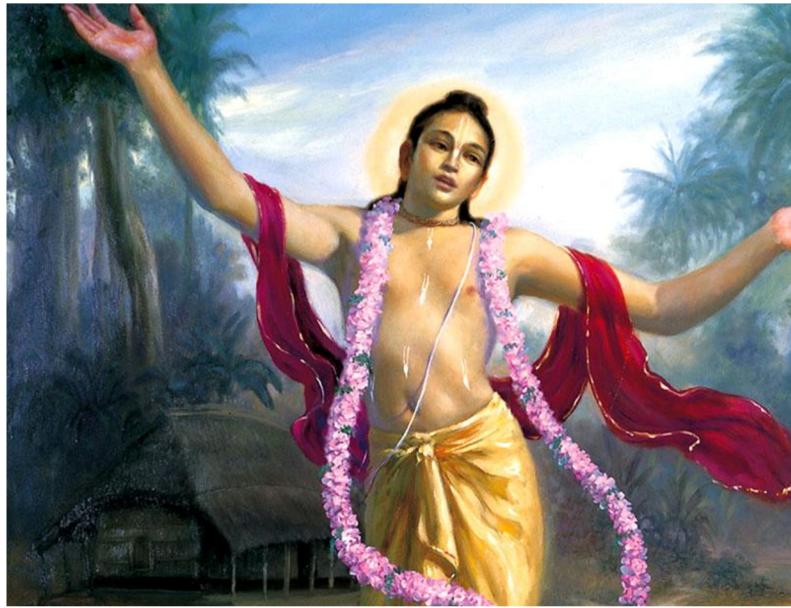
LORD CAITANYA MAHAPRABHU INSTRUCTED HIS DISCIPLES TO WRITE BOOKS ON THE SCIENCE OF KRSNA, A TASK WHICH HIS FOLLOWERS HAVE CONTINUED TO CARRY OUT DOWN TO THE PRESENT DAY. THE ELABORATIONS AND EXPOSITIONS ON THE PHILOSOPHY TAUGHT BY LORD CAITANYA ARE, IN FACT, THE MOST VOLUMINOUS, EXACTING, AND CONSISTENT, DUE TO THE SYSTEM OF DISCIPLIC SUCCESSION. ALTHOUGH LORD CAITANYA WAS WIDELY RENOWNED AS A SCHOLAR IN HIS YOUTH, HE LEFT ONLY EIGHT VERSES, CALLED SIKSASTAKA. THESE EIGHT VERSES CLEARLY REVEAL HIS MISSION AND PRECEPTS. THESE SUPREMELY VALUABLE PRAYERS ARE TRANSLATED HEREIN.

SRI SIKSHASHTAKAM



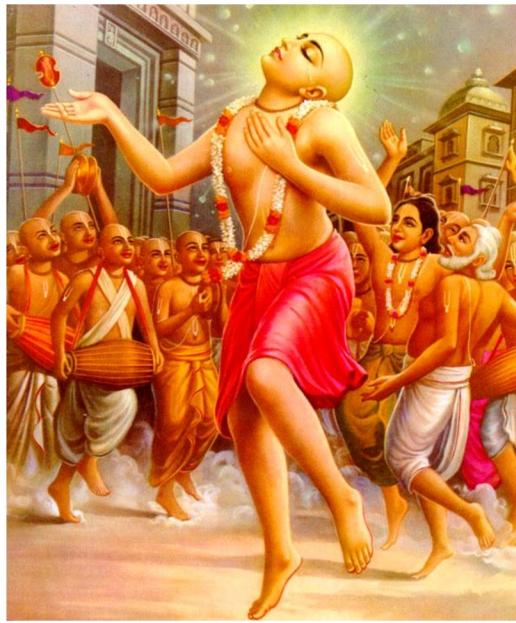
Ceto-darpana-marjanam bhava-maha--davagni-nirvapanam
sreyah-kairava-candrika-vitaranam vidya-vadhu-jivanam
anandambudhi-vardhanam prati-padam purnamrtasvadanam
sarvatma-snapanam param vijayate sri-kragna-sankirtanam

Glory to the sri-kragna-sankirtana, which cleanses the heart of all the dust accumulated for years and extinguishes the fire of conditional life, of repeated birth and death. This sankirtana movement is the prime benediction for humanity at large because it spreads the rays of the benediction moon. It is the life of all transcendental knowledge. It increases the ocean of transcendental bliss, and it enables us to fully taste the nectar for which we are always anxious



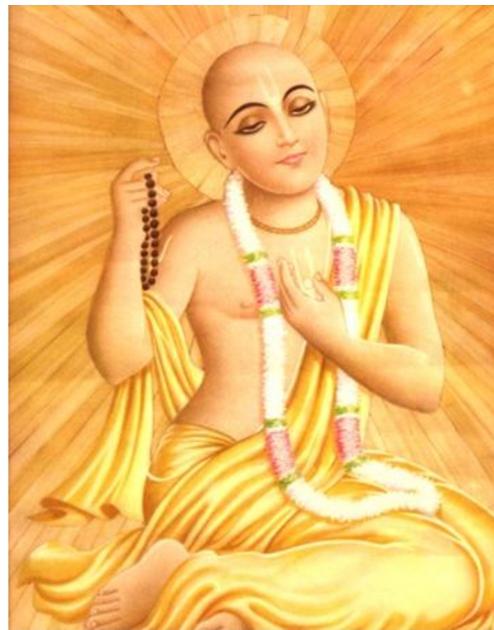
namnam akari bahudha nija-sarva-saktis
tatrarpita niyamitah smarane na kalah
etadrsi tava krpa bhagavan mamapi
durgaivam idrsam ihajani nanuragah

O my Lord, Your holy name alone can render all benediction to living beings, and thus You have hundreds and millions of names, like Krsna and Govinda. In these transcendental names You have invested all Your transcendental energies. There are not even hard and fast rules for chanting these names. O my Lord, out of kindness You enable us to easily approach You by Your holy names, but I am so unfortunate that I have no attraction for them.



trnad api sunicena
taror api sahisnuna
amanina manadena
kirtaniyah sada harih

One should chant the holy name of the Lord in a humble state of mind, thinking oneself lower than the straw in the street; one should be more tolerant than a tree, devoid of all sense of false prestige, and should be ready to offer all respect to others. In such a state of mind one can chant the holy name of the Lord constantly.



**na dhanam na janam na sundarim
kavitam va jagad-isa kamaye
mama janmani janmanisvare
bhavatad bhaktir ahaituki tvayi**

**O almighty Lord, I have no desire
to accumulate wealth, nor do I
desire beautiful women nor do I
want any number of followers. I
only want your causeless
devotional service, birth after birth**



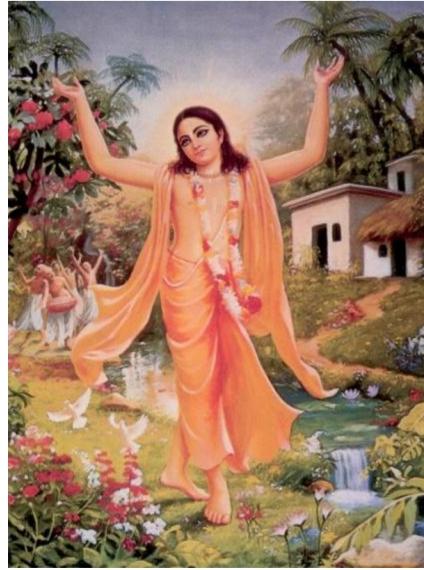
ayi nanda-tanuja kinkaram
patitam mam visame bhavambudhau
krpaya tava pada-pankaja-
sthita-dhuli-sadrsam vicintaya

O son of Maharaja Nanda (Krsna], I
am Your eternal servitor, yet
somehow or other I have fallen into
the ocean of birth and death. Please
pick me up from this ocean of death
and place me as one of the atoms at
your lotus feet.



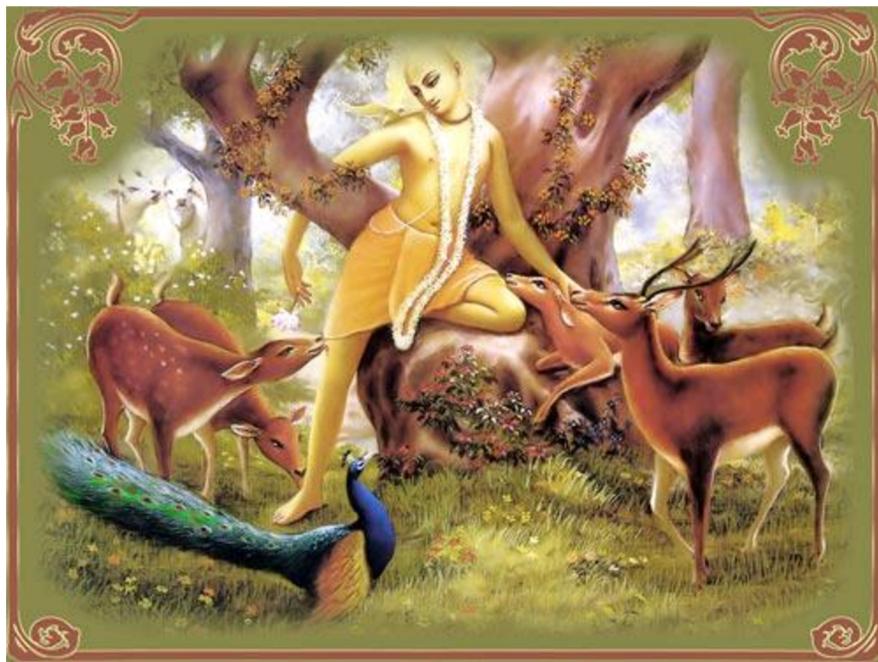
nayanam galad-asru-dharaya
vadanam gadgada-ruddhaya gira
pulakair nicitam vapuh kada
tava nama-grahane bhavisyati

O my Lord, when will my eyes be
decorated with tears of love
flowing constantly when I chant
Your holy name? When will my
voice choke up, and when will the
hairs of my body stand on end at
the recitation of your name?



yugayitam nimesena
caksusa pravrsayitam
sunyayitam jagat sarvam
govinda-virahena me

O Govinda! Feeling your separations I am considering a moment to be like twelve years or more. Tears are flowing from my eyes like torrents of rain, and I am feeling all vacant in the world in your absence.



aslisya va pada-ratam pinastu mam
adarsanan marma-hatam karotu va
yatha tatha va vidadhatu lampato
mat-prana-nathas tu sa eva naparah

I know no one but Krsna as my Lord, and
He shall remain so even if He handles
me roughly by His embrace or makes me
brokenhearted by not being present
before me. He is completely free to do
anything and everything, for He is
always my worshipful Lord,
unconditionally.